

Abstract

A magnetic recording medium having a magnetic layer with a single-layered structure applicable to a linear system is provided. The magnetic recording medium includes an elongated nonmagnetic support and a single-layered magnetic layer having an orthorhombic structure formed on a main surface of the nonmagnetic support by a vacuum thin film deposition technique, and an H_{cmax}/H_{c0} ratio is not greater than 1.2, where H_{cmax} is a maximum value of a coercive force of the magnetic layer which acts in a plane perpendicular to the magnetic layer and containing a longitudinal direction of the magnetic recording medium, and H_{c0} is a coercive force of the magnetic layer which acts in the longitudinal direction of the magnetic recording medium.